

Message Text

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67

ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 CG-00 DOTE-00

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R 111721Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3919

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 10420

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, OCON, UK

SUBJECT: FISHERIES: ICNAF

REF: (A) LONDON 10247, (B) STATE 166742 AND (C) STATE
167508

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER 7 ADDRESSED
TO ACTING SECRETARY RUSH FROM SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME IN
REPLY TO SECRETARY'S LETTER ON ICNAF (REF B):

"MY DEAR RUSH

24 AUGUST WHICH DEALS WITH THE FORTHCOMING SPECIAL
MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE NORTHWEST
ATLANTIC FISHERIES.

"I AGREE WHOLE HEARTEDLY WITH WHAT MR. ROGERS SAID
IN THAT LETTER ABOUT THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF INTERNATIONAL
PRICES OF ALTERNATIVE FOOD SUPPLIES; AND THAT THE
NECESSITY TO DO WHATEVER IS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO AVOID,
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OR AT LEAST TO MINIMISE, THE INFLATIONARY PRESSURES FROM

WHICH WE ARE ALL SUFFERING.

"I ALSO AGREE ENTIRELY WITH MR. ROGERS' VIEWS ON THE NEED TO ENSURE THE EFFECTIVE CONSERVATION, AT THE MAXIMUM SUSTAINABLE YIELD LEVEL, OF THE WORLD'S FISH SUPPLIES. YOU WILL KNOW OF THE RECORD OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN CONSISTENTLY WORKING FOR THIS AIM IN ICNAF AND IN THE OTHER REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS.

"BRITISH FISHERMEN DO NOT FISH IN THE AREAS WHICH ARE TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE OTTAWA MEETING IN OCTOBER. NEVERTHELESS, THE NEED FOR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT IN THESE FISHERIES IS FULLY RECOGNISED BY US, AS ARE THE MORE GENERAL IMPLICATIONS MR. ROGERS MENTIONED OF A FAILURE TO AGREE ON ADEQUATE MEASURES. WE WILL THEREFORE BE REPRESENTED BY BOTH OFFICIALS AND SCIENTISTS AT THAT MEETING. THEY WILL BE BRIEFED TO SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE THE INTRODUCTION OF A TWO-TIER QUOTA SYSTEM, WHICH I GATHER YOUR GOVERNMENT PROPOSES AS AN INTERIM MEASURE, AND EQUIPPED TO DISCUSS DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS.

"WE WELCOME THE NEWS THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THE SPECIAL MEETING IN OTTAWA. I GREATLY HOPE THAT ALL CONCERNED WILL APPROACH THIS IN A FAR-SIGHTED, CONCILIATORY AND CONSTRUCTIVE WAY, IN KEEPING WITH THE SPIRIT OF MR. ROGERS' LETTER, AND THAT THE MEETING WILL SUCCEED IN RESOLVING THE QUESTIONS WITH WHICH IT WILL BE DEALING. I BELIEVE THAT WE WOULD BOTH AGREE THAT IT IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT THAT INTERNATIONAL FISHERY ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS ICNAF SHOULD BE SEEN TO BE WORKING BOTH EFFECTIVELY AND HARMONIOUSLY AT THIS TIME, IF THEIR CREDIBILITY IS NOT TO BE UNDERMINED ON THE EVE OF THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE." SOHM

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